

Libby Area Technical Assistance Group, Inc.  
PO Box 53, Libby, MT 59923  
June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2005 LATAG Meeting Minutes

SDMS Document ID



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(Note: bold items within paragraphs are motions made and voted on as well as action items agreed upon.)

Board Member Attendees:

Gayla Benefield  
JoElyn Brus  
Eileen Carney

Helen Clarke  
Les Skramstad  
Abe Troyer

Contractor Attendees:

Cheryl Fox

Guest Attendees:

Craig Myers  
Aurora Martin  
Donna Tholen-Kaeding  
Duane Tholen

Paul Lammers  
Cathie Sullivan  
Shawn Oliveria

- 1) Call to Order approximately 7:05pm.
- 2) Introductions
- 3) Review and approval of previous meeting minutes:
  - a) It was requested to begin listing all guests with meeting minutes for regular scheduled LATAG meetings (**ACTION ITEM.**)
  - b) Minutes were reviewed for the May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Executive Board meeting.
    - i) **LeRoy Thom made the motion to accept minutes as written, JoElyn second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.**
  - c) Minutes were reviewed for the March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2005 meeting.
    - i) **Abe Troyer made the motion to accept minutes as written, Eileen Carney second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.**
  - d) Minutes were reviewed for the May 10<sup>th</sup> 2005 meeting.
    - i) **Eileen Carney made the motion to accept minutes (with corrections to paragraph 3, c, ii, 3), Helen Clarke second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.**
  - e) Minutes were reviewed for the May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Executive Board meeting.
    - i) **Abe Troyer made the motion to accept minutes as written, LeRoy Thom second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.**
  - f) Minutes were reviewed for the May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Special LATAG meeting.
    - i) **Helen Clarke made the motion to accept minutes with a grammar correction to paragraph 2), iv), 1). Eileen Carney second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.**
  - g) Minutes were reviewed for the May 23<sup>rd</sup>, Executive Board meeting.
    - i) **Les Skramstad made the motion to accept minutes as written, JoElyn second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.**

- 4) Old Business (action items from May 10<sup>th</sup> 2005 meeting):
- |   |                 |           |
|---|-----------------|-----------|
| a) It was requested to begin attaching action items to all meeting minutes for review during regular scheduled LATAG meetings ( <b>ACTION ITEM</b> .) |                 |           |
| b) Letter to Jim Christiansen regard LATAG position on the demolition model.  | Board Members   | Completed |
| c) Compile a list of names for a technical Advisor replacement.   | LeRoy Thom      | Pending   |
| d) Contact Diana Hammer regarding Grant Administrator reimbursement.  | Gayla Benefield | Completed |
| e) Nominating Committee – receipt of new board member application.  | LeRoy Thom      | Completed |
| f) Community Resource Specialist job description is needed.   | Gayla Benefield | Pending   |
| g) Review the “Supplemental Quality Assurance Project Plan”.  | Board Members   | Completed |
| h) Receive a “Hold Each Harmless Letter” from Gordon Sullivan.  | Mike Noble      | Pending   |
| i) Fourth Quarter 2004 report from Technical Advisor  | Cheryl Fox      | Completed |
| j) First Quarter 2005 report from Technical Advisor   | Cheryl Fox      | Completed |
| k) April Reimbursement Request  | Cheryl Fox      | Completed |
- 5) Report – Grant Administrator – Cheryl Fox
- Fourth quarter 2004 and first quarter 2005 reports are completed, approved and submitted to EPA.
  - The Grant Administrator contract was reviewed by the Executive Board and approved. The contract was signed during this meeting and will be submitted to EPA.
  - Second quarter 2005 report will be compiled; in-kind matching time sheets are needed for this report.
  - April and May reimbursement through the end of 2004 contract period was submitted and received.
    - The reminder of May reimbursement (with a signed contract) will be submitted with the full June reimbursement request.
    - The Grant Administrator was assured there would not be a problem with EPA approving the 2005 signed contract with the revisions from the 2004 contract.
- 6) Report – EPA (work in progress):
- Shawn Oliveria gave a report on SQUAPP (Supplemental Quality Assurance Project Plan). This is a very aggressive sampling program planned for this summer. This program should address a lot of questions that the community has been asking. A copy of this will be available to LATAG, given to the Grant Administrator (**ACTION ITEM**). This project plan involves approximately 12 tasks:
    - Soil contribution to indoor dust:
      - Outdoor soil contamination to determine a correlation to indoor dust levels.
        - Most of the risk associated with vermiculate is associated with the soil and indoor dust levels and not associated with vermiculite in the walls and attic.
        - They will be using non-asbestos chemical markers, which is basically trace metals which is typically present in soils of Libby. They will be comparing the ratios of these metals in both yard areas and specific use areas such as flowerbeds and garden beds. This will allow them to determine how much of the indoor dust levels are coming from the exterior soil levels as opposed to other additional sources.

- (2) Indoor dust "K" factors – this a ratio of concentration in the air versus concentration in the dust. :
  - (a) They are taking a known dust level and they will agitate that particular area and measure the air concentration in close proximity of that dust sample. Hopefully this will tell if there is a certain [known] concentration of dust what to expect in the air.
- (3) Out door exposure scenario "K" factors – basically this is relationship between out door soil concentration and the air concentration you can expect disturbing known concentration.
  - (a) In 2001 EPA a "Phase 2 Scenario Sampling" - a "bunch" of different activity was done for instance rotatilling in the garden and raking. They will reanalyze some of these original samples using their more sensitive methods.
  - (b) Children playing in dirt that is contamination with a known level of asbestos. (They will be using an EPA worker using a respirator).
  - (c) Raking of bare soil – they will be re-visit this scenario using the PLM-VE methods. Using air samples that go down to more sensitive levels as well.
    - (i) Mowing of lawns testing will be using a height of three and one-half to four feet.
- (4) "Hot" samples at concentrated levels and reanalyze them using the lower sensitive TEM levels.
- (5) Detection limits in soils looking at PLM-VE evaluation while pushing the detection limits down with USGS samples.
- (6) The remaining steps will be done involving time trends in air and dust samples over three, six, nine and 18-month intervals. They will run ambient air and dust samples in cleaned properties to see if there is any recontamination of these properties. These will be ongoing studies. These time trends studies have already began and results should be compiled beginning June 7, 2005. These studies will involve:
  - (a) VAI left in fully enclosed walls (six properties).
  - (b) Residential dust which is  $>500 \text{ s/cm}^2$  (dust) contributors to indoor zones (seven properties). [Where s=structures over cm=centimeters, squared.]
  - (c) Measure dust levels in homes using EPA heap vacuums (eight properties).
  - (d) Measure dust levels under carpets (nine properties).
    - (i) Crawlspace have NOT been addressed in the project plan. Discussion followed with LATAG regarding their concerns that EPA has not addresses this critical area. Numerous comments were made regarding homeowners and contractors needing access to this space.

*A question from a guest asked what is PLM-VE?*

PLM-VE is a new method that EPA has "championed" to measure lower levels of asbestos in soils. PLM is the "normal" method, generally the main method of analyze for asbestos throughout the nation. Typically tied to regulatory concerns. Anything that tests greater than one percent asbestos by PLM is considered an asbestos containing material and regulated as such. PLM-VE is a method which a sample is taken and ground up trying to release all the fibers in the soil. It is much more aggressive method than PLM.

*A question of what the cost of the samples was asked.*

Without exact costs, air clearance samples with a sensitivity of .005 structures per TT (cubic centimeters of air), costs about \$150 per sample. Demolition monitoring with three rings of perimeter monitoring they will analyze to the sensitivity of .001 structures per TT. These samples cost approximately \$750 per sample. Getting down to the lower sensitivity levels is very difficult by their labs. Typically to count to this level 1,200 liters of air is collected, the lab has to count thirty grids total samples. To get to this level the lab has to count 170 grids per sample. This is a huge, huge increase in samples.

- b) Comments were made regarding EPA's response and testing needed for crawlspaces and carpet **(ACTION ITEM)**.
  - i) It was suggested that EPA take carpet in contaminated houses, or houses that were cleaned to a lab for testing (including underlying matting).
- c) Demolition will begin June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2005 on the Epperson property located on Mineral Avenue. Results from the cleanup testing might be available by the August LATAG meeting. :

7) Sub-Committee Reports

- a) Technical Advisor Committee - \_\_\_\_\_ (chairperson)
  - i) No chairman has been assigned yet. Old job descriptions have been reviewed and previously received resumes. This committee is not ready to submit resumes to the LATAG Board. This job will not be posted in a "normal" fashion. Danette Quick will be contacted regarding the procedure for job posting.
- b) Nominating Sub-Committee – LeRoy Thom (chairperson)
  - i) An application has been received from Tony Brown. Approval was recommended to accept his application. **Eileen Carney made the motion to accept Tony Brown to the LATAG Board, Helen Clarke second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.**
  - ii) It was mentioned that Dr. Brad Black was interested in joining the LATAG Board.
  - iii) A question rose regarding term expiration of existing board members. **(ACTION ITEM.)**
  - iv) **LeRoy Thom made the motion to change in the bylaws to expand the LATAG Board members from eleven members to thirteen, Abe Troyer second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.**
- c) Communications Sub-Committee – Jan Meadows (chairperson)
  - i) The brochure is ready with a change of the title of "Director" to the corrected Technical Advisor.
  - ii) **JoElyn Brus made the motion to distribute the LATAG brochure, Les Skramstad second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.**
- d) Consultant Panel Sub-Committee
  - i) **Due to the focus of this group is within the scope of the Technical Advisor Committee; JoElyn Brus made the motion to roll this committee into the Technical Advisor Committee, Helen Clarke second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.**
- e) CRS (Community Resource Specialist) Sub-Committee -- Mike Noble (chairperson)
  - i) LATAG to present to the City of Libby on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2005 for support of this position.
- f) Health/Safety Sub-Committee – Abe Troyer (chairperson) – inactive committee.
- g) Technical Sub-Committee – inactive committee.
  - i) **Due to the inactive status this committee Abe Troyer made the motion to dissolve this committee, LeRoy Thom second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.**

8) Review and agreement on action items generated from this meeting

9) Open Discussion:

- a) Guests Donna and Duane Tholen voiced their frustration with the EPA clean up of their property. This project began in July of 2004 and still has not been completed. They were told that the clean up would take approximately four weeks after waiting six years to have it cleaned. They said that they were lied to and that the soil that was replaced in their garden will not grow anything. They asked who else this has happened to and they felt that unless they threatened action nothing was being done about it. The Tholen's said there needed to be an advocacy program for property owners and a quality control program. It was discussed that LATAG was not in a position to be an advocacy program for property owners.

- i) It was reported that MARCOR did the clean up with CDM providing oversight. There has been a "strained" relationship between these two organizations regarding the clean up of this property.
  - ii) It was asked about possible solutions. Comments were made regarding restoration being the most difficult issues and especially involving landscaping. The contractors are paid on task orders and restoration was not a major focus this for. It was reported that approximately three to five percent of the cleaned properties have restoration issues.
  - iii) It was recommended that the Tholen's complete a Property Owner Assistance form provided by LATAG to be submitted during their meeting with Jim Christiansen on June 8<sup>th</sup> (ACTION ITEM). (A copy of the completed Property Owner Assistance form to be attached to completed meeting minutes.)
- b) Guest Craig Myers gave a brief report on the Stimson property clean up. Approximately 35% of the property has been completed. Walls for two businesses have been cleaned of vermiculite due to the fact they can't be sealed or contained. The roof is half off and clean up will be completed by the end of next week (June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2005). Clean up of the mobile shop will begin the following week with an anticipated completion date of mid July.
- i) It is unknown if the plywood building is scheduled as part of the clean up.

10) Next Meeting Scheduled – July 12th, 2005.

11) Adjourn:

- a) **LeRoy Thom made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Abe Troyer second the motion. Motion unanimously passed. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00pm.**